

# WATER QUALITY M E M O R A N D U M

Utah Coal Regulatory Program

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March 27, 2008

TO: Internal File

THRU: Daron R. Haddock, Permit Supervisor

FROM: Dana Dean, P.E., Senior Reclamation Hydrologist

RE: 2007 Fourth Quarter Water Monitoring, Mountain Coal Company, Gordon Creek 2, 7, & 8 Mine, C/007/0016-WQ07-4, Task ID #2733

The Gordon Creek 2, 7, & 8 Mine has been reclaimed and received Phase II bond release on all but 1.63 acres on March 7, 2007. The 1.63 acres contain sedimentation ponds that will be reclaimed now that the rest of the area has received Phase II bond release.

Pertinent water monitoring requirement information is in the MRP in Sections 7.1.8 and 7.2.6, and tables 7-17, and 7-18.

1. Was data submitted for all of the MRP required sites? YES ☒ NO ☐

**Springs** –

*The Permittee is not required to monitor any springs at the Gordon Creek 2, 7, & 8 Mine.*

**Streams** –

*The Permittee is required to sample one intermittent stream (2-2W), and three ephemeral stream sites (2-7-W, 2-8-W, 2-9-W) for flow, and the laboratory parameters outlined in Table 7-18 each quarter.*

The Permittee monitored and reported the essential data for all streams as required during this quarter.

**Wells**–

*The Permittee is not required to monitor any wells at the Gordon Creek 2, 7, & 8 Mine.*

**UPDES**

*There is no longer an active UPDES site at the Gordon Creek 2, 7, & 8 Mine.*

2. Were all required parameters reported for each site? YES ☒ NO ☐

The Permittee included all required parameters for the site that flowed this quarter.

3. Were any irregularities found in the data? YES ☒ NO ☐

Reliability Checks outside of standard values were:

Site	Reliability Check	Value Should Be...	Value is...
2-2-W	Conductivity/Cations	> 90 & < 110	76
2-2-W	K/(Na + K)	<20%	20%
2-2-W	Mg/(Ca + Mg)	< 40 %	42%
2-2-W	Na/(Na + Cl)	>50%	48 %

The Permittee should work with the lab to make sure that samples pass all quality checks so that the reliability of the samples does not come into question. These inconsistencies do not necessarily mean that a sample is wrong, but it does indicate that something is unusual. An analysis and explanation of the inconsistencies by the Permittee would help to increase the Division's confidence in the samples. The Permittee can learn more about these reliability checks and some of the geological and other factors that could influence them by reading Chapter 4 of *Water Quality Data: Analysis and Interpretation* by Arthur W. Hounslow. A geological influence is most likely here, since most samples have the same inconsistencies, and they recur each quarter.

4. On what date does the MRP require a five-year re-sampling of baseline water data.

The MRP does not require a five-year re-sampling of baseline water data.

5. Based on your review, what further actions, if any, do you recommend?

No further actions are required at this time.